(c) if no action has been taken, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Gov .as already decided to. enhance Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity rates by 30 per cent with effect from the 1st September, 1985.

(c) Docs not arise.

Sone Canal Modernisation Scheme

. 2008. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD: SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA*:

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Sone Canal Modernisation Scheme has been submitted to the World Bank ;

(b)whether it is also a fact that the Bihar Government has not allocated sufficient fund in the Seventh Five Year Plan for. modernisation;

(c) it is a fact that the World Bank is not appraising the scheme due to insufficient allocation of funds ;

(d) v it is a fact that the Sone Canal system has become hun dred years old incapable for rendering any service; and

(e) if so, what steps have been taken to_ expedite the scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (c) The Sone Canal Modernisation Scheme has been posed to the World Bank and has been included in the long term pipeline. However, further processing is contingent on resolving various technical and financial issues. The Government of Bihar has only made a token provision for the' project in the Seventh Five Year Plan.

(d) and (e) Sone Canal System is 100 years old and has naturally become less efficient and therefore, a scheme for modernisation of the Sone System has been submitted by the State Government for technical approval of the Planning Commission Phase-I of the scheme has also been approved by the Planning Commission.

Sugarcane Arrears

2009. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD: SHRI INDRADEEP SINHA :

Will the Minister of POOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) what steps are being taken by Government to clear arrears of prices of sugarcane ; and

(b) whether Government propose to insist on the sugar mill owners to pay interest on the arrears ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO) : (a) Ensuring payment of cane price arrears is the direct responsibility of the State Governments, who have the necessary field organistions and powers to enforce such payments. The Central Government monitors the position and has been advising State Governents, from time to time, for expeditious clearance of cane price arrears.

The Central Government, on its part, has been taking steps aimed at improving the liquidity of the industry